

GLOBAL PATENT SEARCH NETWORK

Frequently Asked Questions – July 1st, 2013

General information

1. Which browsers are compatible with the Global Patent Search Network (GPSN)?

Google Chrome (v23.x) and IE 8.0.

2. What patents are available in the Global Patent Search Network?

Initially, GPSN will provide access to Chinese patent information from the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of the People's Republic of China. Documents available include published applications, granted patents and utility models from 2008 to 2011. There are plans to add additional international patent collections in the future.

3. What information is in the database?

The information available includes full text native language Chinese patent documents and their corresponding English machine translations. Additionally, full document images of Chinese patent documents are available, which are considered the authoritative Chinese patent documents.

4. How often is the Global Patent Search Network updated?

This collection will periodically be updated as new data becomes available.

5. What are the limitations of machine translations?

Machine translation technology has some limitations and you may see sentences that can be awkward sometimes. One of the purposes of English machine translations is to effectively address the language barrier and allow for quick analysis of the relevancy of the prior art and

reduce the need for human translations. Human translation may be needed if a higher level of accuracy is necessary. Inventor names translations can be awkward.

Searching

1. What operators can I use in my search queries?

Operator	Description	Example
Wildcard Searches		
?	One wildcard character	te?t returns results that include the term test and text
*	Any number of wildcard characters	test* returns test, testing, tester, testers
Proximity Operators		
"~10	Find words within a specific distance away from each other	"apple banana"~10 returns results that include the term apple within 10 words of banana
Range Searches		
field: [a TO b]	Match documents whose field values are between the lower and upper bound specified by the range query	date_publ:[2011-01-01T00:00:00Z TO 2011-12-31T23:59:59Z]
Fuzzy Searches		
~	Returns terms similar in spelling	roam~ will return foam and roams
Boolean Operator		
AND	Returns results with both apple and banana	apple AND banana
OR	Returns results that include apple or banana	apple OR banana
NOT	Returns results that include apple and not banana	apple NOT banana
+	Returns results that include word after +	apple + banana
-	Returns results that do not have the word after -	apple - "banana cake"
Field Grouping		
() AND, OR, NOT	Groups multiple clauses to a single field	sensor AND (cat OR dog)

2. What is the default search operator when I perform a search?

The operator “AND” is used as default operator.

3. Does the system allow searching in Chinese characters?

Yes. The system allows searching in simplified Chinese characters.

4. What are the different fields I can search? How do I search by inventor? By year? By classification?

If an initial keyword search has been performed, quick filtering options are listed on the left pane of the result set window. Simply select one of the filter options, such as inventor, year, or classification to narrow the result set.

5. How do I search by Publication number?

Enter grant_number:1420488 for patent/ Enter application_number:200910093368.6

6. Can I save my search queries so that I can recreate the search at a later time?

Yes. Select “Query History” option to view query history window. On the Query History Window, select “Print” to save search history into PDF file if PDF is one of the printing destinations in your printer selection screen. Note: In Internet Explorer, you will need to have the Adobe PDF plugin installed.

Viewing Results

1. How do I view an entire patent in the search results?

From the Search Result Set list, click on the document you want to view. The document will be expanded with keywords highlighted. Scroll down to the bottom of the document, select “View Patent” to open document detail window to view the entire patent document.

2. How do I view the drawings in a specific patent?

From the Search Result Set list, click on the document you want to view. The document will be expanded with keywords highlighted and a thumbnail image of the document. Click on the image to view the entire document with drawings in thumbnail. You can also see a larger image of the drawings by selecting “view patent” button at the end of a search result record.

3. How do I view the original Chinese text of a Chinese patent in the search results?

In the document detail window, select “Chinese” under document title to view the original Chinese text.

4. How do I view the image of a Chinese patent in the search results?

From the Search Result Set list, click on the document you want to view. The document will be expanded with keywords highlighted and a thumbnail image of the document. Click on the image to view the image of a Chinese patent in thumbnail.

5. How can I get a quick view of the documents (such as Abstract, keywords matched) in the result set without viewing the full document?

From the Search Result Set list, click on “Expand All” located on the right top corner of the window for quick views. Key words will be highlighted.

6. How do I view the full English translation of a document?

In the document detail window, select “Translated English” under document title to view the full English translation of a document.

7. Can I view both Chinese and English document side-by-side?

No. However, you can view both Chinese and English paragraph by paragraph. In the document detail window, select “Both” under document title to view both Chinese and English paragraph by paragraph.

8. How can I narrow down my search result list?

From the search result set, click on the filter options on the left pane to narrow down current search result list, or add more keywords in the search input field.

9. What filters can I apply to the search results?

Kind Code, Publication Year, Classification

10. Can I select more than one filter?

Yes

11. What's the default sorting order in the result set?

Relevancy ranking.

Saving/Printing/Downloading

1. How do I print a patent?

From the result set, select a specific patent to expand the selection, and click on the view patent button at the bottom of the expanded section. A view patent window will be displayed. At the top right should be a print button that you can select.

2. Can I print more than one patent at a time?

While you can print out multiple patent summaries by checking the print checkbox on the right of each patent in the result set, and then clicking the print button on the left hand side, you cannot print out more than one entire patent at once.

3. How do I email a patent to someone else?

From the results, select a specific patent to expand the selection, and click on the view patent button at the bottom of the expanded section. A view patent window will be displayed. At the top right should be an email button that you can select.

4. How do I save a copy of a patent of both the original Chinese patent and the corresponding machine translation?

From the results, select a specific patent to expand the selection, and click on the view patent at the bottom of the expanded section. Once you're viewing the patent, make sure you are viewing both the English and Chinese text by clicking "Both" at the top left of the patent. At the top there should be a print button that you can select to "save as PDF" in Chrome, or Adobe PDF in Internet Explorer (if you have the Adobe PDF plugin), to save a copy of the patent.

5. How many patents can I print/download/save at a time?

You can save one patent at a time.

6. How can I print/save selected documents in each of the formats available? : title only, the sections containing keywords, full documents?

- You can print out the search results with title only by clicking "collapse all" at the upper right, and then clicking the print button at the upper left.
- You can print search results with all the sections containing keywords by clicking "expand all" at the upper right, and then clicking the print button at the upper left.
- You can print individual patents by clicking the desired patent in the search results, clicking view patent, and then clicking print in the upper right.

7. Can I save a copy of my search results so that I can view the results at a later time?

If you copy the URL of the search results, you can recreate the search results at a later time.

8. How can I share a link of a particular patent?

If you click on "Email" at the top right of in the view patent window, you can get the link to the patent that you can share.

Search Query History

1. What does the search query history record?

The search query history records unique search queries made.

2. How do I save a copy of my search query history?

On the search query history page, click the Print button. In Chrome, choose Save as PDF option to save the search query history as a PDF file. In Internet Explorer, select the Adobe PDF option (you will need to have the Adobe PDF plugin installed).

3. How do I clear my search query history?

Click the Query History button in the top left hand column, and then click the Clear History button at the top of the Search Query History.

All feedback and questions should be sent to the GPSN@USPTO.GOV mailbox.